



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application for:

First Named Inventor: FAVIER, VALERIE

Art Unit: 2141

Appln. No.: 09/740,801

Examiner: WILLETT

For: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR
CONFIGURING A FIREWALL IN A COMPUTER
SYSTEM

Confirmation No.: 6156

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REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION AFTER FINAL

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Final Office action dated December 3, 2004,
reconsideration in view of the following Remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 11-24 and 26 are pending and are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as
unpatentable over Reid et al. and Antur et al.

Independent Claim 11 recites, *inter alia*, a method for controlling access to
network resources having, at a central configuration machine, defining an internal
protection domain for each of a plurality of firewalls . . . defining at least one external
protection domain for the plurality of firewalls . . . creating a plurality of resource
groups . . . specifying an access control rule . . . configuring each firewall using the
access control rules and, at each firewall, in response to a request to access a
destination network resource received from a source network resource, determining
whether to apply the access control rule specified for the resource group associated
with the destination network resource based on the scope of the access control rule.

Independent Claim 23 recites, *inter alia*, a system for controlling access to
network resources comprising a plurality of firewalls, coupled to the external
network, each firewall including at least one internal subnetwork, each internal
subnetwork having at least one access-control network resource . . . a central

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